IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) Use of A flavouring composition comprising a mandelic acid alkylamides alkylamide of general formula (I)

wherein

X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom, and

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms,

R² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R⁵ group, and

R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue.

 \mathbf{or}

 R^3 and R^4 together represent a –CR $^6R^7\text{-}$ group,

and R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof as flavour compounds.

- 2. (Amended) Use of A flavouring composition comprising
 - 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,

- 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
- 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
- 2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
- 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- $\hbox{$2$-(4-hydroxy-$3$-methoxyphenyl)-$2$-hydroxy-$N$-nonylacetamide,} \\$ and
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

 as flavour compounds.
- 3. (Amended) Use according to claim 1 or 2, A flavouring composition according to claim 1 exhibiting a pungent flavour wherein flavour compound means pungent compound or a flavour compound with a heat-generating effect.
- 4. (Amended) Use according to at least one of claims 1 to 3 in preparations for use in A preparation consumed for nutrition or consumed for pleasure comprising a flavouring composition according to claim 1.
- 5. (Amended) Use according to at least one of claims 1 to 3 in preparation An oral hygiene composition comprising a flavouring composition according to claim 1. for use in oral hygiene.
- 6. (Amended) Preparations for use in nutrition, oral hygiene or consumed for pleasure containing mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)

wherein

X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom, and

R1 represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms.

and

R² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R⁵ group, and

R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

R³ and R⁴ together represent a -CR⁶R⁷- group, and

R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

- 7. (Original) Preparations according to claim 6, containing at least one other pungent-tasting or heat-generating substance.
- 8. (Original) Preparations according to claim 6, containing at least one pungent-tasting plant extract.
- 9. (Original) Preparations according to claim 6, containing at least one other pungent-tasting or heat-generating substance and at least one pungent-tasting plant extract.

- 10. (Amended) Preparations according to at least one of claims 6 to 9 claim 6 in the form of a semi-finished products. product.
- 11. (Amended) Preparations according to at least one of claims 6 to 10 claim 6 in the form of odour, flavour and taste compositions and seasoning mixes.
- (Amended) Mandelic acid alkylamides alkylamide flavouring compounds of general formula
 (I)

$$R^{4} \xrightarrow{X} OH \xrightarrow{H} N$$

$$R^{3}O \xrightarrow{R^{2}} O$$

$$(I)$$

wherein

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R² represents a hydrogen atom,

and, either

X represents a single bond,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R⁴ hydrogen,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ hydrogen, and

R⁴ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, and

R4 hydrogen,

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R¹ 1-pentyl, R² and R³ hydrogen and R⁴ methyl.

- 13. (Original) 2-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
 - 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
 - 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
 - 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide, and
 - 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide.
- 14. (Amended) A process for producing Production of the flavouring compounds according to claim 12 or 13, characterised in that a mandelic acid of general formula II

$$R^4 \xrightarrow{X} OH$$
 (II)

wherein

X, R², R³ and R⁴ have the meaning given in claim 12, and

Y represents an activated nucleofuge, or derivatives, the OH groups of which are protected with protective groups,

is reacted with an alkylamine of general formula (IIIa)

$$H_2N$$
 R^1 (IIIa)

or an alkylammonium salt of general formula (IIIb)

wherein R¹ has the meaning given above and A² denotes an inorganic or organic anion.; optionally in the presence of solvents and/or auxiliary bases, and the protective groups of the OH groups are optionally split off.

- 15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Amended) Cosmetic or dermatological preparations containing mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)

wherein

- X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom and
- R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

- R² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R⁵ group and
- R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, or R³ and R⁴ together represent a –CR⁶R⁷- group and

R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

and the various stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.